

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ASUNCI 02469 211212Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
HA-05 AID-05 /078 W
-----010699 211328Z /45

R 211100Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3297
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ASUNCION 2469

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SHUM, PA
SUBJECT: STATUS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

REF: ASUNCION 2370

1. ARCHBISHOP OF ASUNCION, ISMAEL ROLON, HAS STEPPED INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE HUNGER STRIKE (REFTEL) OF 13 POLITICAL PRISONERS IN EMBOSCADA PRISON AND THREE OTHERS WHO WERE TRANSFERRED TO POLICE JAILS. AFTER THE START OF THE STRIKE JUNE 10, THE ARCHBISHOP MET WITH STRIKERS TWICE DURING THE WEEK OF JUNE 11. HE PUBLICLY COMPLAINED THAT THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR HAD NOT RESPONDED TO HIS REQUEST FOR A MEETING TO MEDIATE THE ISSUE. INTERIOR MINISTER MONTANARO PAID A VISIT TO EMBOSCADA ON JUNE 16 (WE UNDERSTAND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE) AND ORDERED ONE PRISONER, SILVERO BENITEZ VILLALBA, RELEASED ON JUNE 17.

2. THE ARCHBISHOP AND MONTANARO FINALLY MET ON JUNE 19 AND THE TALKS REPORTEDLY WENT VERY WELL. ANOTHER MEETING BETWEEN ARCHBISHOP ROLON AND THE STRIKERS JUNE 19 IS TO BE FOLLOWED BY FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH MONTANARO ON JUNE 20. ALL OF THIS HAS BEEN COMPLETELY REPORTED IN THE PRESS ALONG WITH OPTIMISTIC COMMENTS FROM BOTH SIDES THAT THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ASUNCI 02469 211212Z

HUNGER STRIKE CAN BE SETTLED SHORTLY. AS THE MAIN DEMAND OF THE STRIKERS HAS BEEN THEIR FREEDOM, THIS, IN TURN, HAS AROUSED EXPECTATIONS THAT THE GOP WILL TAKE SOME DRAMATIC ACTION IN REGARD TO THE REMAINING POLITICAL PRISONERS.

3. WITH THE LATES RELEASE, THE PRESENT TOTAL OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IS DOWN TO 57. THERE ARE 46 IN EMBOSCADA AND 11 IN

OTHER DETENTION. WE ARE DROPPING THE 10 PERSONS FORMERLY
CARRIED UNDER HOUSE ARREST. THE INTER-FAITH CHURCH COMMITTEE
TELLS US THESE PERSONS CAN MOVE AROUND FREELY AND THAT IT NO
LONGER CARRIES THEM AS POLITICAL PRISONERS.
WHITE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ASUNCIO2469
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780258-0934
Format: TEL
From: ASUNCION
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780637/aaaabgdp.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: da98b784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 ASUNCION 2370
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2272208
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS
TAGS: SHUM, PA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/da98b784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014